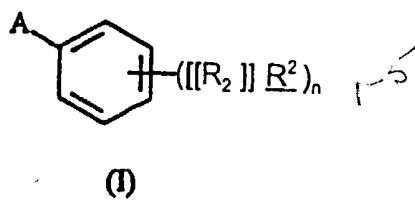


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

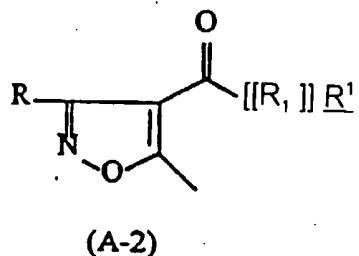
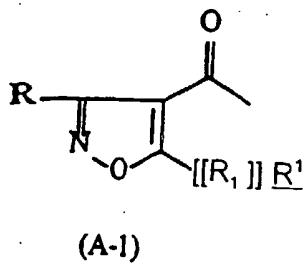
Claims 1-26 (canceled).

Claim 27 (Currently amended): A method for controlling the growth of weeds at a locus in a solid growing medium which comprises treating the locus with an encapsulated composition comprising an isoxazole herbicide encapsulated within a solid film to provide progressive or sequential delivery or release of isoxazole herbicide into the surface layer of the medium, wherein said solid film comprises an inert material that has no substantial herbicidal activity, further The method according to claim 25, wherein the isoxazole herbicide comprises an isoxazole compound of the general formula I



wherein:

A represents a group (A-1) or (A-2):



wherein:

R represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; a straight- or branched-chain alkyl or alkenyl or alkynyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms; a cycloalkyl group containing from 3 to 6 carbon atoms optionally substituted by one or more groups R⁵, one or more halogen atoms or a group -CO₂R³; or a group selected from -CO₂R³, -COR⁵, cyano, nitro, -CONR³R⁴ and -S(O)_kR¹³;

R¹ represents a straight- or branched-chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, or a cycloalkyl group containing from three to six carbon atoms optionally substituted by one or more groups R⁵ or one or more halogen atoms;

R² represents a halogen atom; a straight- or branched-chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms; a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is substituted by one or more groups -OR⁵; or a group selected from nitro, cyano, -CO₂R⁵, -S(O)_pR⁶, -O(CH₂)_mOR⁵, -COR⁵, -NR¹¹R¹², -N(R⁸)SO₂R⁷, -N(R⁸)CO₂R⁷, -OR⁵, -OSO₂R⁷, -SO₂NR³R⁴, -CONR³R⁴, -CSNR³R⁴, -(CR⁹R¹⁰), -S(O)_qR⁷ and -SF₅; or two groups R², on adjacent carbon atoms of the phenyl ring may, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a 5 to 7 membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring containing up to three ring heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, nitro, -S(O)_pR¹³, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, =O (or a 5- or 6-membered cyclic acetal thereof), and =NO-R³, it being understood that a sulphur atom, where present in the ring, may be in the form of a group -SO- or -SO₂-;

n represents an integer from one to five; when n is greater than one the groups R² may be the same or different;

R³ and R⁴ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, or a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

R⁵ represents a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms; or a straight- or branched-chain

alkenyl or alkynyl group containing from two to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

R^6 and R^7 , which may be the same or different, each represent R^5 or phenyl optionally substituted by from one to five groups which may be the same or different selected from a halogen atom, a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R^5$, $-S(O)_pR^{13}$, $-NR^{11}NR^{12}$, $-OR^5$, and $-CONR^3R^4$;

R^8 , R^9 and R^{10} each represent a hydrogen atom or R^6 ;

R^{11} and R^{12} each represent hydrogen or R^5 ;

R^{13} represents a straight- or branched-chain alkyl group containing up to six carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

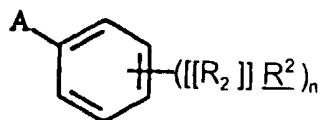
k , p and q independently represent the values zero, one or two;

m represents one, two or three; and

t represents an integer from one to four; when t is greater than one, the groups R^9 and R^{10} may be the same or different;

or an agriculturally acceptable salt or metal complex thereof.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): A method for controlling the growth of weeds at a locus in a solid growing medium which comprises treating the locus with an encapsulated composition comprising an isoxazole herbicide to provide progressive or sequential delivery or release of isoxazole herbicide into the surface layer of the medium. A method according to claim 23, wherein the isoxazole herbicide is a compound of general formula I :



(I)